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ABSTRACT

A small sample of the 60 indicators contained in the "Condition of Education, 1992" are provided in this brief booklet. Ordering information to receive the complete 421-page book is listed along with the following tables: (1) High school completion rate for 19- to 20-year-olds; (2) student drug and alcohol use; (3) immediate transition for high school to college; (4) transition from high school to work; (5) educational attainment at ages 25 to 29; and (6) international comparisons of educational attainment. (MLF)

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October 1992

THE POCKET CONDITION OF EDUCATION 1992

Celeste Loar
National Center for Education Statistics

The following tables are a small sample of the 60 indicators contained in the ***Condition of Education, 1992***.

Since 1870, the federal government has been gathering data about students, teachers, schools, and education funding. The U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) annually publishes a statistical report on the status and progress of education in the United States. This ***Condition of Education*** includes data and analysis on a wide variety of issues. The 60 indicators in the 1992 edition are in six sections:

- Access, participation, and progress;
- Achievement, attainment, and curriculum;
- Economic and other outcomes of education;
- Size, growth, and output of educational institutions;
- Climate, classrooms, and diversity of educational institutions; and
- Human and financial resources of educational institutions.

The indicators use data from government and private sources. The book also includes overviews of each issue and additional tables and information for each indicator.

To receive the complete 421-page ***Condition of Education, 1992***, see the ordering information at the end of this booklet.

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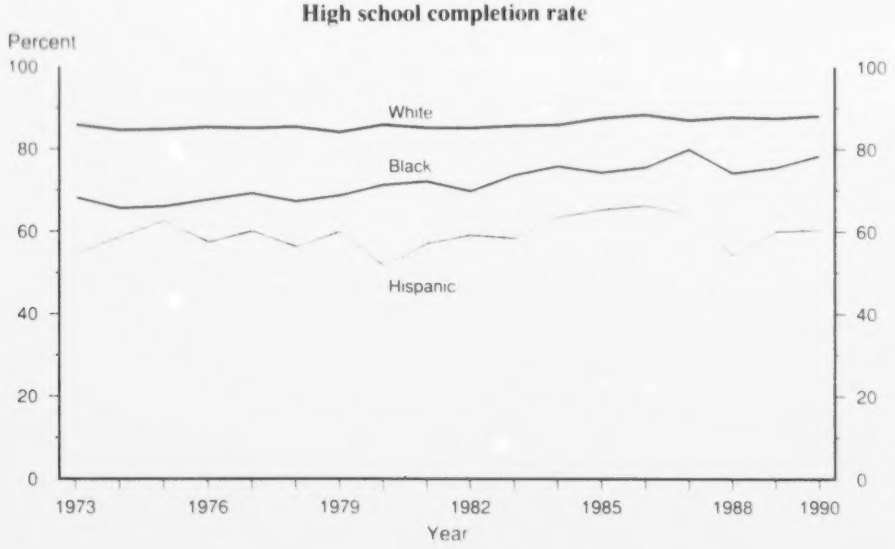
High school completion rate for 19- to 20-year-olds 1

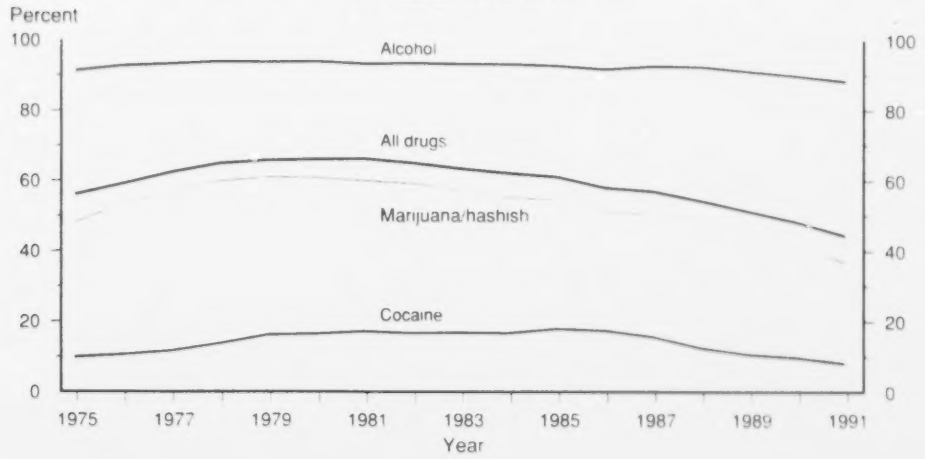
One important measure of this nation's success in education is the proportion of its youth completing high school. Possession of a high school diploma or its equivalent signifies that an individual should have sufficient knowledge and skills to function productively in society.



Student drug and alcohol use

Drugs and alcohol interfere with thinking and reduce academic achievement. Crimes of violence may accompany or result from substance abuse. In these circumstances, school effectiveness and the achievement of all students may suffer.

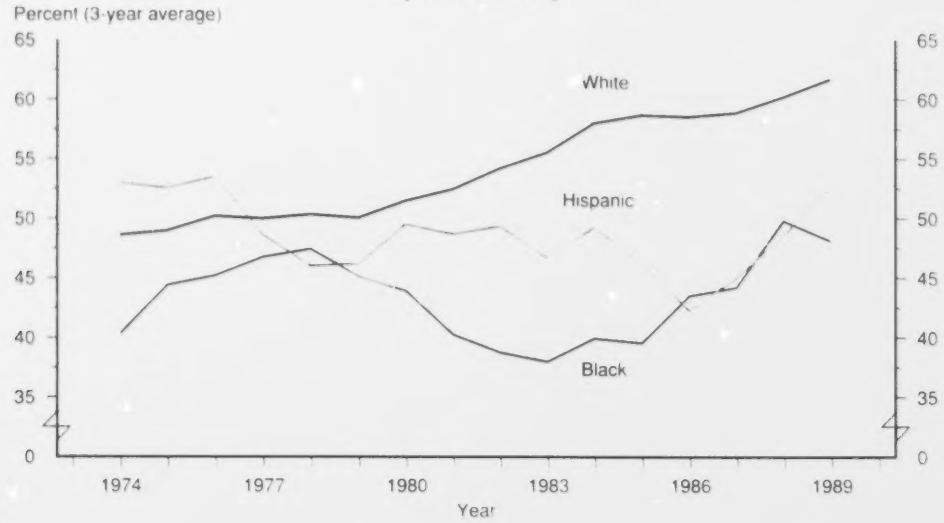
Percentage of high school seniors who have ever used illegal drugs, marijuana/hashish, cocaine, or alcohol: 1975-1991



Immediate transition from high school to college

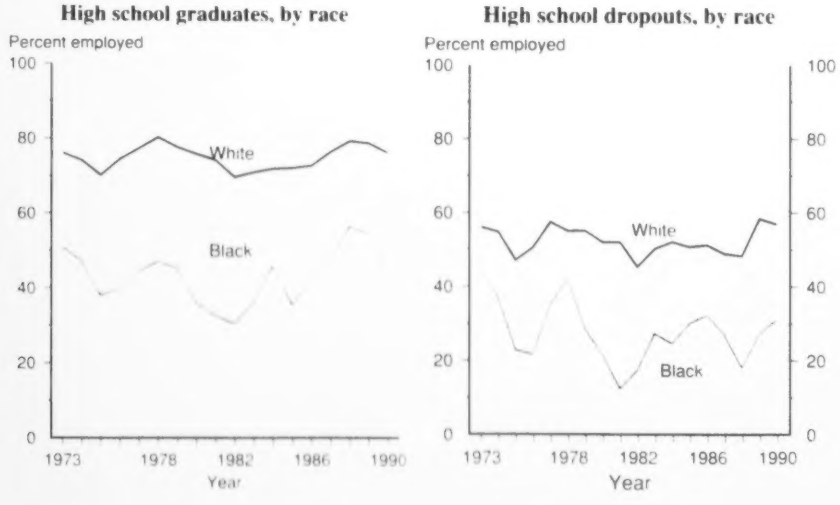
Most college students enroll immediately after finishing high school. The percentage of black graduates going directly to college was greater in 1989 than it had been in 1974. In the late 1980s, blacks and Hispanics were about equally likely to go directly to college, but still less likely than whites.

By race/ethnicity



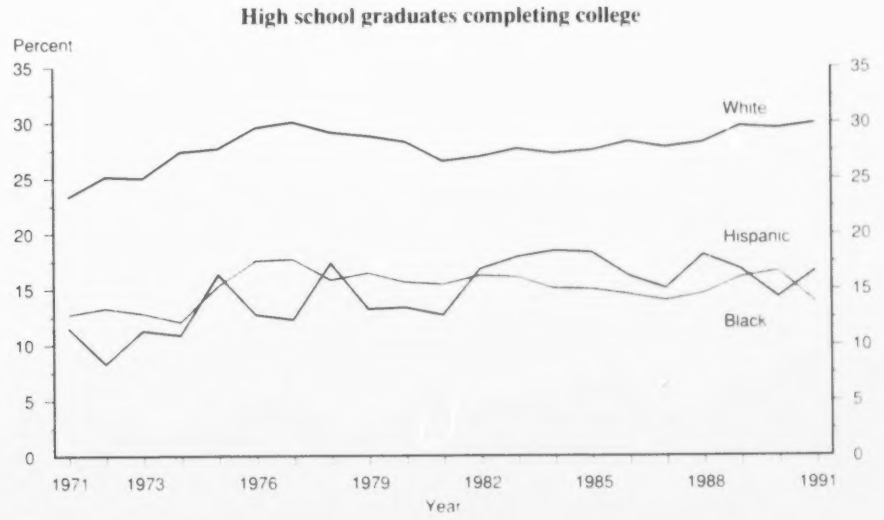
Transition from high school to work

The transition from high school to work can be difficult. Without prior job experience or specialized training, school leavers may find it more difficult to win jobs, and they may be dissatisfied with those that they do find. The employment rate among school leavers, both those who have not finished high school and those who have but did not go on to college, is an indication of the ease of making the transition.



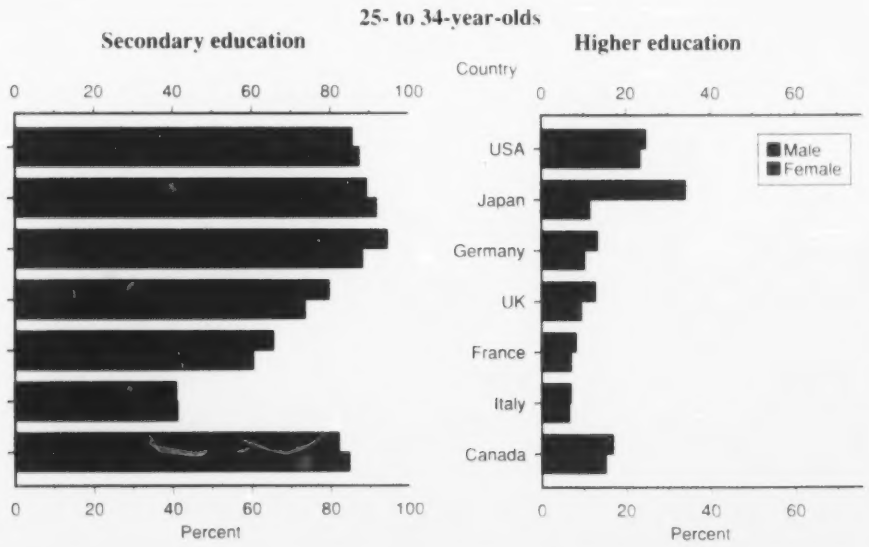
Educational attainment at ages 25 to 29

Completing 4 years of college is an important educational accomplishment that will yield many benefits to those who achieve it. It represents the end-result of both starting college and persistent enrollment. Some students stop out, others drop out, but the vast majority of those who will ever complete 4 years of college do so by their late twenties.



International comparisons of educational attainment 6

The percentage of the population completing secondary and higher education in the United States and other highly industrialized countries provides an indication of the skill level of the U.S. workforce as compared to its economic competitors.



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